

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment, a new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is submitted.

Further, the method claims are amended by the present response to clarify the language therein, which clarification is not believed to narrow the claims in any aspect.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

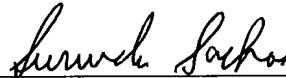
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